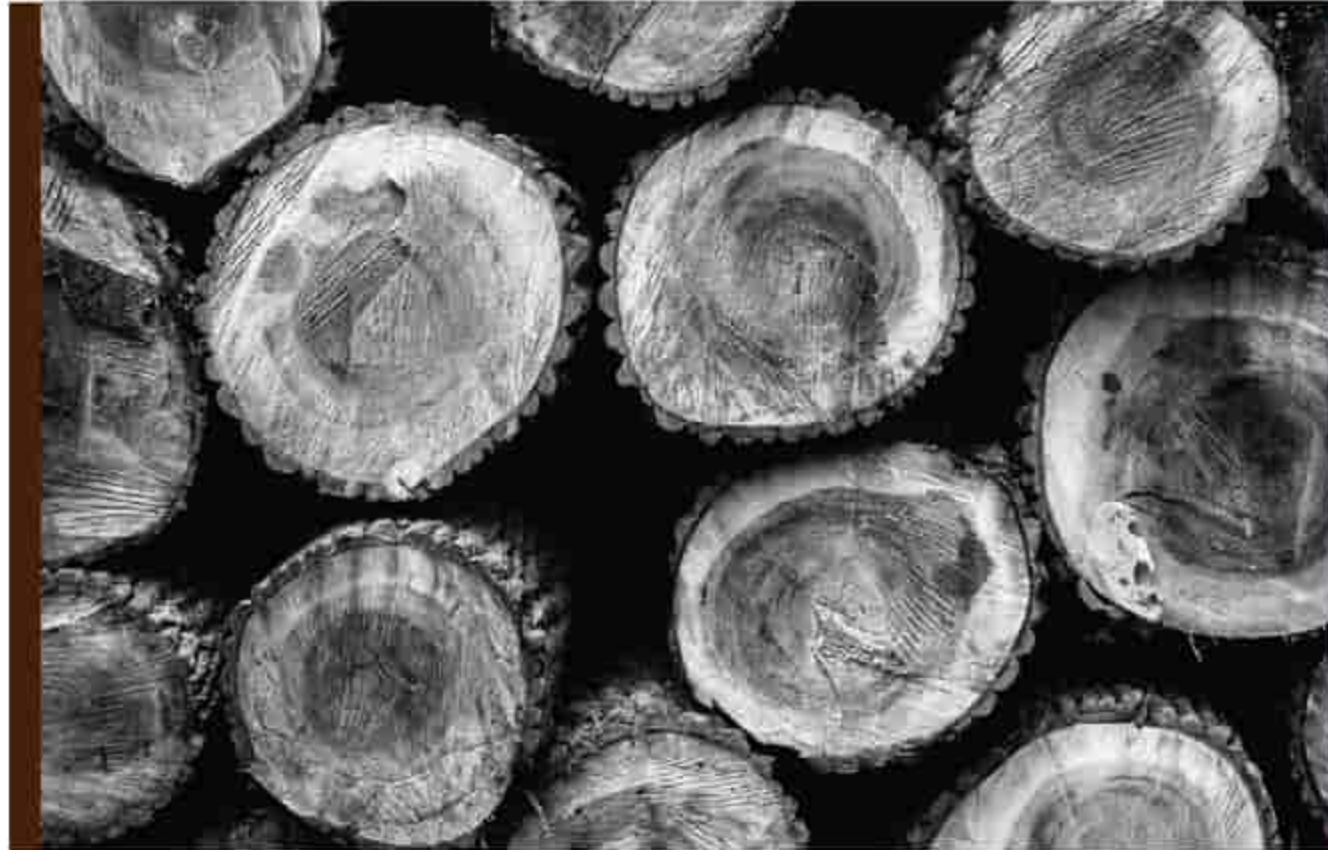




AXE EFFECT

No means no: Citizens make emphatic point during public consultation meet on proposal to chop 368 trees at Cantonment Railway Colony

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5



LAKE EATERS

KIADB accused of acquiring land for construction of link road on buffer zone and catchment area of Kongaiah Tank near Hulikunte

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6

Manual scavenging occurs everywhere in the city — from its core areas to the outskirts. But as cases are only reported when there are fatalities, the banned practice carries on

SHAMEFUL SECRET, AN OPEN SECRET

People who report it often face assault or threats too

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Despite manual scavenging being illegal, cases are typically registered only in the event of a death. Official data shows that just five cases were recorded in 2024. Bengaluru has the highest manual scavenging deaths in the state. Disturbingly, those who raise concerns or question the practice often face threats or assault in response.

The recent incident of a AAP volunteer Shivakumar Naidu alleging assault in Domlur area of the Shantinagar while questioning illegal activity brought the issue to the fore. Naidu said he witnessed a manual scavenging incident while he was commuting and when he questioned about the illegal activity, he was assaulted.

Shivakumar asked, "Is it wrong to question a wrong doing?"

Manual scavenging has been officially banned since 1993. However, due to the nature of the practice and the lack of robust enforcement, cases are often only reported when they result in death. This leads to underreporting of the practice and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>



“Manual scavenging occurs daily, but it often goes unnoticed as it happens at odd hours, sometimes at midnight, sometimes at 4 am and in different locations. One person does the cleaning, another handles the payments

— Dr KB Obalesha, Safaikarmachari Kavalu Samiti (KSSK)

**Nobody
heard the
warning
bell?**

State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre had identified 200 vulnerable spots on April 2, but when flood came, nobody was ready



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Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre had warned nearly a month ago that over 200 areas in the city were at risk of flooding due to heavy rains. Despite this early alert, the government has faced public criticism for failing to take adequate preventive measures. Citizens have expressed concerns that proper precautionary steps were not implemented in time.

Key flood-prone zones identified included Bommanahalli, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Yelahanka, and several other sectors across Bengaluru. Following these identifications, flood warnings were issued. Since April 15, civic agencies including the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), BESCOM, and the police were instructed to maintain flood vigilance in eight designated zones.

What was the warning?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 >>

PAGES 3&4
RAIN
RUIN

THINGS TO DO

01 Paw parade

Pet Fed is presenting its Express Edition Pet Festival. Pets are in for a treat as the event offers an exclusive play area, a pet fashion show, a pet talent show, pet shopping stalls, and food and beverages for your beloved companions. **Where:** Phoenix Mall of Asia, Yelahanka; **When:** May 25, 11 am



02 Crafty affair

The Museum of Art and Photography is organising 'The Scrappy Puppet Tales' workshop, where kids will become puppet creators using all sorts of cool scrap and junk. It's a hands-on adventure where imagination takes centre stage. **Where:** Museum of Art and Photography, Ashok Nagar; **When:** May 19 to May 24



03 Beat retreat

The Indian Music Experience Museum is organising a unique masterclass titled 'Rhythm and Poetry', led by Gubbi—a multilingual rapper and one of Bengaluru's pioneering voices in hip-hop. **Where:** Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar; **When:** May 25, 11 am



04 Unbreakable bonds

Ranga Shankara is presenting 'Love Letters- Ninna Preetiya, Naanul!', a play about friendship, missed chances, and the kind of connection that refuses to fade. It's a reminder that sometimes the words we write live longer than the moments we live. **Where:** Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; **When:** May 29 and 30, 7.30 pm



05 Hindustani twist

Theatrenama is presenting 'Suno toh sahi', a delightful theatrical experience that reimagines Anton Chekhov's stories with a Hindustani flair. The play follows musical banter between a couple, unfolding stories filled with humour, emotion, and fun. **Where:** Vyoma ArtSpace and Studio Theatre, JP Nagar; **When:** May 24, 4 pm and 7 pm

Experts highlight risk of undetected prostate cancer

Some early signs of cancer to watch for include blood in urine or semen, increased frequency of urination, and difficulty starting urination, says doctor

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Prostate cancer, often dubbed the "silent threat," continues to go undetected in its early stages due to delayed medical attention—especially among Indian men. The recent revelation about former US President Joe Biden suffering from an aggressive form of prostate cancer that has metastasised to his bones has brought the disease back into global focus. Speculation around Britain's King Charles possibly battling the same condition has only underscored its seriousness.

A city-based specialist said that although prostate cancer ranks as the second most common cancer among men in developed nations, it is currently the 12th most common among Indian men. "However, its incidence is rising in India, and the trend is alarming. A recent Lancet Commission report states that 40-50% of prostate cancer cases in India are detected only after the disease has reached metastatic or advanced stages," the specialist said, adding that the late diagnosis drastically reduces treatment effectiveness and survival chances.

The prostate is a small gland located below the bladder that produces seminal fluid. When abnormal cell growth occurs in this gland, it leads to prostate cancer. This condition primarily affects men over the age of 50, with a sharp increase in cases seen among those in their late sixties. According to the Longi-



Awareness, timely diagnosis, and regular screening can make all the difference in saving lives

A recent Lancet Commission report states that 40-50% of prostate cancer cases in India are detected only after the disease has reached metastatic or advanced stages

— a city-based specialist

tudinal Ageing Study in India (2020), the population aged 60 and above is expected to grow by 11% by 2050, suggesting a significant rise in elderly men at risk of developing prostate cancer. "Early-stage prostate cancer is often symptomless, but some signs to watch for include blood in the urine or semen, increased frequency of urination, and difficulty starting urination. Unfortunately, these symptoms are often mistaken for other benign conditions, leading men to ignore them until it is too late," said a doctor.

Doctors report that the incidence rate of prostate cancer in

India ranges from 5 to 9.1 per 100,000 men annually, with urban areas recording higher rates—11.8 and 9.7, respectively. This trend highlights the urgent need for awareness and early detection. Medical professionals commonly recommend that men over 50 undergo a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test. This test measures PSA levels in the blood, with elevated levels potentially indicating the presence of prostate cancer. However, PSA levels can also rise due to non-cancerous conditions such as infections or an enlarged prostate. Furthermore, there is ongoing debate within the medical community about whether all cases of early-stage prostate cancer require aggressive treatment, as the disease often progresses slowly, sometimes taking a decade to cause serious harm.

With an aging population and increasing urbanisation, the burden of prostate cancer in India is set to grow. Awareness, timely diagnosis, and regular screening can make all the difference in saving lives.

Advocate disputes state's selective exemption from quota requisites

The Karnataka administration is facing backlash for issuing a directive that frees Muslim educational institutions from student-quota obligations to obtain 'religious minority institution' status, whilst other communities remain bound by these requirements.

Prior to March 2024, Christian, Jain, and Parsi educational establishments needed to enrol a minimum of 25 per cent students from their respective communities to maintain minority status. For higher education and technical institutions, this requirement stood at 50 per cent. Although authorities eased these regulations last year due to difficulties in meeting quotas, a subsequent order specifically exempted only Muslim institutions.

Advocate CR Imteyaz has filed a legal challenge in the Karnataka High Court. "The government's policy of exempting only Muslim education institutions from the minority-tag rules is incorrect and does not follow the Constitution," he said. He emphasised that the Constitution lacks provisions for admission quotas in minority institutions. "How can a state government dictate a specific percentage of admissions to secure that status?" he questioned, requesting the administration to revoke the exemption. The High Court's verdict on Imteyaz's petition is being monitored by minority groups throughout Karnataka as it could influence future admission policies. — BMB

Kannada actor Ranya Rao gets conditional bail

In a major development, the Special Court for Economic Offences in Bengaluru has granted conditional bail to jailed actress Ranya Rao on Tuesday. The court has also granted relief to the second accused Tarun Raju by allowing his bail petition. The accused sought bail on the grounds of non-submission of the charge sheet against them by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) even after 60 days. Considering the plea, the court granted them bail, but directed the accused not to leave the country without prior permission of the court. The matter has been adjourned to June 2.

The court has also directed the accused to provide surety by two persons and also furnish a bond of Rs 2 lakh each. They were further instructed not to hamper with the investigation process. The court said that the applications filed by the accused under the Section 187(3)(ii) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Act were allowed.

Ranya Rao, the stepdaughter of senior police officer Ramchandra Rao, was arrested on March 3 for allegedly smuggling 14.2 kg of gold, valued at more than Rs 12.56 crore. Ranya Rao and the other

two accused in the case are currently lodged at the Bengaluru Central Prison. On May 13, the Karnataka High Court directed the Union government to file its objections within two weeks in connection with the petition filed by Ranya Rao, challenging the invocation of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act (COFEPOSA) Act against her in the gold smuggling case.

The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB), a nodal agency under the Ministry of Finance, invoked the COFEPOSA Act against the actress and other accused in the gold smuggling case as per the recommendation of the DRI, probing the case. A vacation bench of Justice HP Sandesh and Justice Ramachandra Huddar gave the directions while looking into the petition by Ranya Rao seeking to declare that imposing the COFEPOSA Act against her is illegal and 'void ab initio' (void from the beginning). In legal contexts, 'void ab initio' means that a contract, agreement, or other action is considered invalid and has no legal effect from the moment it was created. — IANS

Suspense over next Karnataka Police Chief

The question of who will be Karnataka's next Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG & IGP) has generated considerable buzz within the state's Police Department. Based on seniority, two names have emerged as the front-runners for the top job—Prashanth Kumar Thakur, DGP of Fire and Emergency Services, and Dr MA Saleem, DGP of CID.

The state government had earlier sent a list of six senior IPS officers to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for its recommendation. Among these, the names of Prashanth Kumar and

Dr Saleem, along with one other officer, were short-listed and returned to the state government. With the final decision pending, lobbying and speculation have intensified. Sources indicate that the state government is showing a preference towards appointing Dr MA Saleem as the next DG & IGP. However, this choice could pose legal challenges, as Prashanth Kumar Thakur is senior to Saleem by one year in service. If the government overlooks Thakur's seniority and appoints Saleem, it could lead to a legal tussle.

There is concern that Thakur might challenge such a decision before the

Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), arguing that he was sidelined despite his seniority. Government sources acknowledge that promotions to the DG & IGP post have traditionally followed the principle of seniority, and any deviation could result in legal complications.

All eyes are now on May 21, by which time a final decision is expected. Whether the government upholds seniority or opts for a candidate of its choice will be a key development to watch, and it could shape the leadership and direction of Karnataka's police force in the coming years. — BMB

Rain roars, heat soars: May unleashes B'luru extremes

City logs its second-highest 24-hour May rainfall in decade; IMD data shows rising heat and storm frequency, marking shift in city's pre-monsoon climate

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Bengaluru witnessed an intense spell of rain on Sunday and Monday, with the city recording over 100 mm of rainfall in a single day, marking it as the second-highest 24-hour rainfall in May over the past decade. The only instance of a heavier May downpour in recent years was on May 18, 2022, when the city recorded a staggering 114.6 mm in just one day. This latest downpour underscores a larger pattern: May rainfall in Bengaluru has become increasingly erratic, with extreme single-day events now occurring more frequently. While 2022 saw the highest 24-hour rainfall, 2023 went down as the wettest May overall, with a record-breaking monthly total of 305.4 mm, equalling the all-time high for the month. Other unusually wet Mays include 2017 (241.9 mm) and 2018 (239.8 mm), pointing to a rising trend in intense precipitation events.

An analysis of the data shared by IMD (India Meteorological Department) showed that over the past decade, Bengaluru's May weather has shown clear signs of shifting patterns, marked by intensify-



Bengaluru recorded over 100 mm rain in a day, the second-highest May rainfall in a decade

ing heat and increasingly erratic rainfall. An analysis of temperature and rainfall data from 2011 to 2024 highlights the city's growing vulnerability to extreme weather events, with rising maximum temperatures and irregular storm activity becoming more frequent. May 2024 emerged as the hottest in recent years, with temperatures peaking at 38.2°C on both May 1 and 3, just short of the all-time high of 38.9°C recorded on May 22, 1931. Other recent years have also seen unusually high temperatures, including 36.2°C in 2019, 37.0°C in 2017, and 37.3°C in 2016, reflecting a trend toward harsher pre-monsoon summers. On the other hand, minimum temperatures have remained relatively stable, typically ranging between 19°C and 20°C. May 2024 recorded lows of 20.2°C on the 9th and 14th, while the lowest recent

May minimum was 17.9°C in 2022. The historical record for the lowest May temperature remains 16.7°C, set in 1945.

Bengaluru's climatological profile, based on data from 1991 to 2020, reflects a historically moderate climate. The average maximum temperature peaks at 34.1°C in April and drops to 26.9°C in December, while minimum temperatures vary from 16.1°C in January to 22.1°C in April. The annual mean maximum temperature is 29.8°C, with a mean minimum of 19.4°C — underscoring the city's longstanding reputation for a balanced climate. However, rainfall patterns reveal a different story. The bulk of rainfall occurs during the monsoon and post-monsoon months, with September being the wettest month, averaging 208.3 mm over 9.5 rainy days. October follows with 186.4 mm, and Au-

Analysis from 2011-2024 shows rising temperatures and increasingly frequent extreme weather events in the city

gust receives 162.7 mm. In contrast, January and February are the driest, with 1.6 mm and 7.1 mm of rain, respectively. On average, the city receives 1,077.6 mm of rainfall annually over approximately 63 rainy days.

According to the IMD data, May also stands out as the peak month for thunderstorms, averaging 10.9 thunderstorm days each year. April and October witness thunder activity too, with 7.2 and 7.0 days, respectively. Hailstorms are rare, with just 0.4 days reported annually.



Torrential rains stall city commute

Bengaluru's recurring infrastructure woes resurfaced yet again after heavy overnight rainfall led to widespread waterlogging, traffic gridlocks, and a near standstill in several parts of the city, particularly along major IT corridors.

The rains, which began on Monday evening, severely affected traffic movement by early Tuesday morning. Major arterial roads, including Hosur Road, between Silk Board and Rupena Agrahara, were temporarily shut due to flooding. The elevated flyover was also closed for several hours, and commuters were advised to take alternate routes until water was pumped out. Traffic personnel were stationed across key junctions to manage the chaos, with special attention to tech park zones.

Despite no official advisory from the traffic police, several IT companies proactively advised employees to work from home, citing safety and traffic concerns. Companies near flood-prone zones issued alerts to staff, recommending the use of emergency helplines and SOS applications. An IMD (India Meteorological Department) yellow alert remains in place for the city until Friday, raising further caution.

EVs jam roads

A senior traffic police official told BM that movement slowed not only due to waterlogging but also because BMTC's EV buses often broke down, particularly on flyovers, where rainwater had accumulated. "These vehicles, especially the EVs with batteries mounted below, jammed frequently. Pushing them aside during peak hours, with rain pouring, was a challenge," the official said.

Among the most affected locations were Veerannapalya, Nagawara Junction, Hebbal Flyover, Hennur Sai Nagar, and areas around Manyata Tech Park. At the Yelahanka Railway Underpass, waterlogging worsened as ongoing BMCL work disrupted BWSSB pipelines. Hunasamaranahalli, known for lacking proper drainage, was also hit hard. Additionally, Outer Ring Road, Electronic City and Tin Factory Areas saw traffic issues. —Atiya Firdos

Floods hit tech park zone

Torrential rainfall in Bengaluru has led to alarming flooding in and around Manyata Tech Park, Manpho Convention Centre, and adjacent areas. The root of the crisis, locals say, lies in the illegal diversion and encroachment of the Raja Kaluve (stormwater drain) by Karle Infra Tech. The situation has escalated to a point where citizens fear for their safety, with calls mounting for urgent government intervention.

Residents allege that Karle Infra Tech encroached upon 33 guntas of government land, blocking the natural flow of the Raja Kaluve, a 35-foot-wide stormwater drain that historically flowed straight from Sulthanpalya to Mariyannapalya Lake. Instead, Karle is said to have constructed a wall and forcibly diverted the flow at a

90-degree angle in Survey No 91/3, reducing the width to a mere 6 feet grossly inadequate during heavy rain.

The blockage has resulted in large-scale flooding in Nagawara village, Manpho Convention Centre, and the Manyata Tech Park zone, impacting the working population and nearby residents. Satellite images and land records reportedly support these claims, showing how the natural SWD route was disrupted to facilitate private construction. Residents allege manipulation of land records, claiming that Survey No 91/3, which included B Kharab land, was illegally regularised by Karle Infra Tech with the alleged involvement of revenue and BBMP officials. Reports from the Koliwad Committee and BBMP in 2023 had flagged these violations.



ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ಧೇಶ್ವರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ

ಶಿವಾನುಭವ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಭವನದ

ಲೋಕಾರ್ಪಣೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ

ಖುಬಾರ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21/05/2025 ಸಂಜೆ: 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಸ್ಥಳ: ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ಧೇಶ್ವರ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ ಆವರಣ, ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್. ರಸ್ತೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ



ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಗಳು

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ.ಎ. ಪಾಟೀಲ
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಸಚಿವರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ



ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ

ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವಗೌಡ ರಾ. ಪಾಟೀಲ (ಯತ್ಯಾಚ)



ಅತಿಥಿಗಳು

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿಠಲ ಧೂ. ಕಟಕದೊಂಡ
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆನಂದರು, ವಾಗ್ಗಾಯಕರು, ವಾಗ್ಗಾಯಕರು

ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಆಗಮಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪೂಜ್ಯರಿಗೆ, ಸಚಿವರಿಗೆ, ಶಾಸಕರಿಗೆ, ಗಣ್ಯಮಾನ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವಾಮಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಾರ್ಥಿಕ ಸ್ವಾಗತ

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Drain disaster hits slum homes

Bengaluru's heavy rains flood slums, leaving nearly 5,000 residents without food, dry clothes, or shelter; welfare groups seek help, but authorities fail to provide adequate support to vulnerable families



Streets flood as rations and clothes wash away in the downpour



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Bengaluru's record rain wreaks havoc on nearly 5,000 slum residents across the city. As relentless showers continue, their streets flood, rations and clothes wash away, and bedding soaks through.

Rathnamma (name changed), a senior citizen living in one of the city's slums, says she has no other option but to lie on a dripping wet bed. Rathnamma suffered a stroke a few months ago and has mostly been tied to bed due to various complications.

While senior citizens and those with grave illnesses are living through hell, other residents, along with young children, can be seen draining water from their houses.

"All our houses are flooded because the stormwater drain was



Water enters several homes as drains remain choked

not cleaned before the rain. We have had no food, dry clothes, and bedding since Monday," rued a resident of Farukya Nagar slum.

Representatives of Slum Mahila Sanghatane, a city-based organisation working towards the welfare of slum dwellers, say that at least more than 350 families across 18 locations in seven wards are affected due to rain.

The affected areas include Vin-

obha Nagar, Rammanna Garden, Jali Mohalla, Bangi Colony, Jai-Bheem Nagar, Bakshi Garden, Farukya Nagar, Anjanappa Garden, MCT Colony, Narasimhaiha, Padearayanapura, Sanja Nagar, Bhoomatha Seva Sanga, and Janatha Colony.

"These are the number of families affected in our working area. There are other slums in the city, and the total number of affected people would be much more than this. The residents are stuck at their homes. Water has entered many areas, mainly due to choked drains. Around 3,000 families in our working areas are affected. We raised the issue with local inspectors of BBMP, and while the drains have been cleaned, residents do not have food and dry clothes, or bedding. People are experiencing electric shocks due to earthing problems," said Jancy of Slum Mahila Sanghatane.

While the grassroots level slum dweller welfare workers have been trying to make temporary arrange-

ments in Kalyana mantapas and government schools, the effort has been in vain so far.

"We are approaching local authorities with a request to open BBMP schools and kalyana Mantapas for these residents in need. We wanted to house pregnant women, women with young children, senior citizens, and those with health issues in these buildings, as their houses are flooded. However, no help has been extended so far. Around 5,000 residents from these slums need food and drinking water. Our organisation has been able to help nearly 1,500 residents. We need support to feed and house the rest of those affected," said another representative.

"We met the BBMP commissioner and submitted our applications for relief. However, it is the Disaster Management Committee that should extend help. We have tried to contact them, but it appears they are busy helping residents of apartment complexes and IT parks," rued Jancy.

'No corporator, no response': Citizens battle monsoon misery

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Thousands of residents in NR Layout, Vijanapura, and nearby areas face major difficulties during heavy rains, as flooding at two underpasses cuts off access to Old Madras Road and the Ring Road. It has become routine for residents to suffer every monsoon. At the same time, authorities and elected representatives forget the issue soon after their visits to the flood-prone underpasses, despite the urgent need for a permanent solution.

"The underpass near the FCI Warehouse is always flooded whenever it rains heavily. It is not that the authorities did nothing to mitigate the flooding problem. The authorities made arrangements to drain water from the flooded underpass a few years ago. They fixed a water pump for

this purpose. Now, it is not clear whether or not the water pump is working. There is no one to maintain the water pump," said Malini, a resident. Demanding that the authorities concerned fix the problem without any delay, Sandeep M, a resident, said the authorities have failed to fix this problem permanently despite recurring flooding incidents all these years.

"There is no improvement at the underpass near the FCI Warehouse. We have to suffer a lot whenever the underpass is flooded. The authorities used to make arrangements to drain water all these years, but they did nothing till Tuesday morning," said



Warning board declares the underpass unsafe for vehicle movement

Sandeep.

Shivaraman Hariharan, a social activist, said, "The water body is situated just a few hundred metres away from the underpass. What is the use of having the engineers if they are not able to ensure rainwater reaches the nearest water body? Residents have been facing a lot of problems due to the wa-

terlogging." A resident pleading anonymity said that the authorities are not responding to residents' problems. "With no corporator, we do not know whom to approach to get infrastructure-related problems solved. I want the government to conduct elections to elect local representatives," he said. However, the Vijanapura ward engineer was not available to comment.

DELUGENOTES

Rain halts traffic

Bengaluru is experiencing heavy rainfall, causing large amounts of water to flow onto the roads. As a result, vehicle movement on Hosur Road was suspended earlier in the day. Traffic was stopped from Silk Board Junction up to Rupena Agrahara, and the elevated flyover was also closed by the traffic police on Tuesday morning. Commuters were advised to use alternative routes. However, later in the day, authorities allowed traffic to resume; however, since key stretches of the road remained blocked due to waterlogging, many commuters faced severe delays and inconvenience.

Parking lot flooded

Water had entered the KR Market parking lot, causing more than 50 vehicles to be locked inside. Several bikes have been damaged and efforts to remove the vehicles have been hindered by the flooding. Authorities and vehicle owners are currently facing difficulties in retrieving their vehicles from the submerged parking area. The flooding has also created significant problems for hundreds of traders and visitors who come to the KR Market daily. Many people faced tough conditions navigating the waterlogged areas, disrupting business activities and causing inconvenience.

Animals caught in deluge

In the waterlogged area of Sai Layout, stray dogs are trapped and unable to escape the flooding. These helpless animals, struggling to find food and shelter, are heard wailing in distress. Around five dogs remain stranded in the submerged zone, wandering amid the rising waters. Residents expressed deep concern over the plight of these mute creatures, urging authorities to take immediate action for their rescue and relief. The ongoing waterlogging not only disrupts human life but also severely impacts the vulnerable stray animals in the area.

No underground parking allowed

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced that a law will be introduced prohibiting the construction of underground parking facilities near lakes and in low-lying areas. "After the monsoon subsides, a detailed action plan regarding this will be released," he said. The DyCM, who holds the Bengaluru Urban Development portfolio, visited MS Palya on Tuesday, following an incident where two individuals, Manmohan Kamath and Dinesh, died due to an electric shock during Monday night's rains.

Rainy spell continues

Bengaluru is set to witness more rain in the coming days, with the IMD forecasting a generally cloudy sky and moderate to heavy showers accompanied by gusty winds (40-50 kmph). Daytime temperatures are expected to hover around 27°C, with night temperatures around 21°C. The current weather is influenced by multiple systems: an upper air cyclonic circulation over the west central Bay of Bengal adjoining south Andhra Pradesh. Another cyclonic circulation lies over South Interior Karnataka and nearby areas, extending between 1.5 and 5.8 km above sea level.

Don't touch even a single tree

Citizens have spoken — at public meeting on proposal to axe 368 trees at Cantonment Railway Colony premises, an unanimous voice rises to stop the axe

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It was a full house at Anugraha Community Hall on a rainy Tuesday afternoon as hundreds of Bengalureans came together to voice their opinion on the proposal to cut 368 trees for a commercial project at Cantonment Railway Colony premises. An angry crowd confronted officials from the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), the agency that had sought permission to clear the trees.

The public was unanimous in their opinion: Not even a single tree should be removed for a commercial project. Angry citizens did not allow RLDA to complete the presentation.

RLDA officials informed that the project is to ensure a source of revenue for Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company Limited (K-RIDE). As per the detailed project report, the suburban rail project was approved by the Railway Board at a cost of Rs 15,767 crore, with a completion period of 6 years. As per RLDA, out of the Railway share of Rs 2,479 crore (20%), Rs 500 crore is through budgetary support and the remaining through the returns of monetisation of land parcels identified in the project report.

"Over 20 sites have been identified for this, of which 6 have been given by Railway Board. One of the six proposed is Cantonment Railway



Members of Parisara Karyakartara Rajya Sanghatane (State Organization of Environmental Activists) protest at the site (file)

Colony Campus. We need to raise equity for the project through this land parcel," said a RLDA official.

However, the citizens who had gathered for the consultation said in chorus, "We do not want a single tree to be cut for the proposed project." "We have had enough. Do not go after our trees anymore."

Find other space

"There are other places to develop commercial projects. Cantonment should be a green station and turned into a biodiversity park. We appeal to the Forest Department to ensure that the space remains untouched," said Joseph Hoover, a former State Board for Wildlife member and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

An online petition against the felling of 368 trees started by Heritage Beku has already garnered 10,574 signatures. Priya Chetty Rajagopal, founder of Heritage Beku, underlines that people have unanimously said they do not want their city to be destroyed. "This is the only green patch if you look west towards the Frazer town area. Moreover, it will also create a traffic bottleneck, given the situation is already grim. Why was the Railway Board not forthcoming when land was required for the construction of Bengaluru metro station? Moreover, the transplantation of trees across all the projects has been eyewash," said Rajagopal.

Citizens also proposed that the Railway Board look at monetising an empty parcel of land, instead of a



Citizens at Anugraha Community Hall on Tuesday

green patch. "If we cut these trees, where are the empty spaces in the city to carry out the plantation? We have already sacrificed a majority of our green cover," said Mahesh Basapara, another participant.

Increase green cover

Senior citizens at the meeting highlighted that while Bengaluru's old glory cannot be brought back, the aim should be to increase the green cover to about 40% of the city's geographical area against the current coverage of 4%.

"We must strive to increase green cover to 35 or 40%. There should be a blanket ban on cutting even a single tree in the city for any project," said Vijay Kumar, a senior citizen.

Some underlined that the site is also of religious and spiritual significance to the local community. "The trees surrounding the temple appear to be devarakadu. No development has taken place here since the British era. If our concerns are not heard, we will take the issue to the Supreme Court," said a citizen.

Vijay Nishant, founder of Project Vruksha and a member of Bengaluru's Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC), highlighted that the Railway has marked an equal number of trees on the other side of the campus, without disclosing a reason. "We are emotional and protective about our green cover. We will not allow any misadventure to take place when it comes to our trees," said Nishant.

Gold thieves caught, charity claim probed

The Byadarahalli police have arrested Shiva (35) and his associate Jagga (35) in connection with a recent gold theft case. Both accused are habitual offenders, with multiple cases registered against them at Begur, Indiranagar, and Jeevan Bheema Nagar police stations.

According to police, the duo targeted several homes, stealing gold ornaments weighing around 260 grams. The stolen items were later sold in Thiruvalli, Tamil Nadu, for approximately ₹22 lakh. The money was reportedly split between them, and police said Shiva allegedly used a portion of his share to pay the school fees of a friend's child.

There were also claims that Shiva had paid the fees of 20 students in his locality. However, his parents said he only helped a friend's child. Senior police officials clarified that such claims remain unverified. "We are yet to record an official statement from the accused on this matter," a senior officer said. Further investigations are underway.

PSI's wife dies by suicide

A 32-year-old woman, identified as Shalini, died by suicide at her residence in HRBR Layout under the Govindapura police station limits on Monday. She was married to Nagaraj, a Police Sub-Inspector posted at KG Halli.

According to police, the couple often argued, and preliminary findings suggest these disputes may have led to her decision. A case of unnatural death has been registered, and Nagaraj is being questioned. Police said further investigation is underway to determine the exact cause behind the incident.

(If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, help is at hand. Call Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for support)

Richmond Town resident sends legal notice to BBMP over crumbling roads

A 43-year-old resident of Richmond Town, Dhivya Kiran, has issued a legal notice to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), holding the civic body accountable for its negligence. He has also indicated plans to file a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) if remedial action is not taken promptly.

According to the legal notice, Kiran has been suffering from chronic neck pain, allegedly worsened by the city's damaged and uneven roads. The condition has made commuting by auto-rickshaw and two-wheelers nearly impossible, while even cab rides remain physically taxing.

Kiran claims to have made four emergency visits to St.



Philomena's Hospital, consulted five orthopedic specialists, and undergone several medical procedures all of which he attributes to the deteriorating road conditions.

"This is not just a personal issue but a collective one," the

notice reads, highlighting the silent suffering of numerous Bengalureans facing similar health challenges due to pothole-ridden streets.

Accusing the BBMP of gross negligence and failure to maintain public infrastructure, the notice demands ₹50 lakh in compensation for medical expenses, mental anguish, physical pain, and disruption of normal life.

Kiran has warned that if the civic agency does not take swift remedial steps, he will pursue the matter further through a PIL. Legal experts believe the case could set an important precedent in holding civic bodies accountable for the public health consequences of poor infrastructure. **BMB**

ಹುಟ್ಟು ಹಬ್ಬದ ಹಾರ್ದಿಕ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

ಶ್ರೀ ಭರಮಗೌಡ (ರಾಜು) ಅಲಗೌಡ ಕಾಗೆ

ಶಾಸಕರು ಕಾಗವಾಡ ಮತಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ

ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಹರಿಕಾರರು, ಸಂಘಟನಾ ಚತುರರು,
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ವಾಯವ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ,
ಕಾಗವಾಡ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಮತಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಐದನೇ ಬಾರಿ
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67ನೇ ಹುಟ್ಟುಹಬ್ಬದ ಹಾರ್ದಿಕ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು.

--: ಶುಭಾಶಯ ಕೋರುವವರು ::--

ಸ್ವಸ್ತಿ-ಕುಬೇರ ಸೌಹಾರ್ದ ಸಹಕಾರಿ
ಸಂಘ ನಿಯಮಿತ, ಉಗಾರ ಖುರ್ದ

ತಾ: ಕಾಗವಾಡ ಜಿ: ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ



Farmers demand halt to KIADB's link road plan

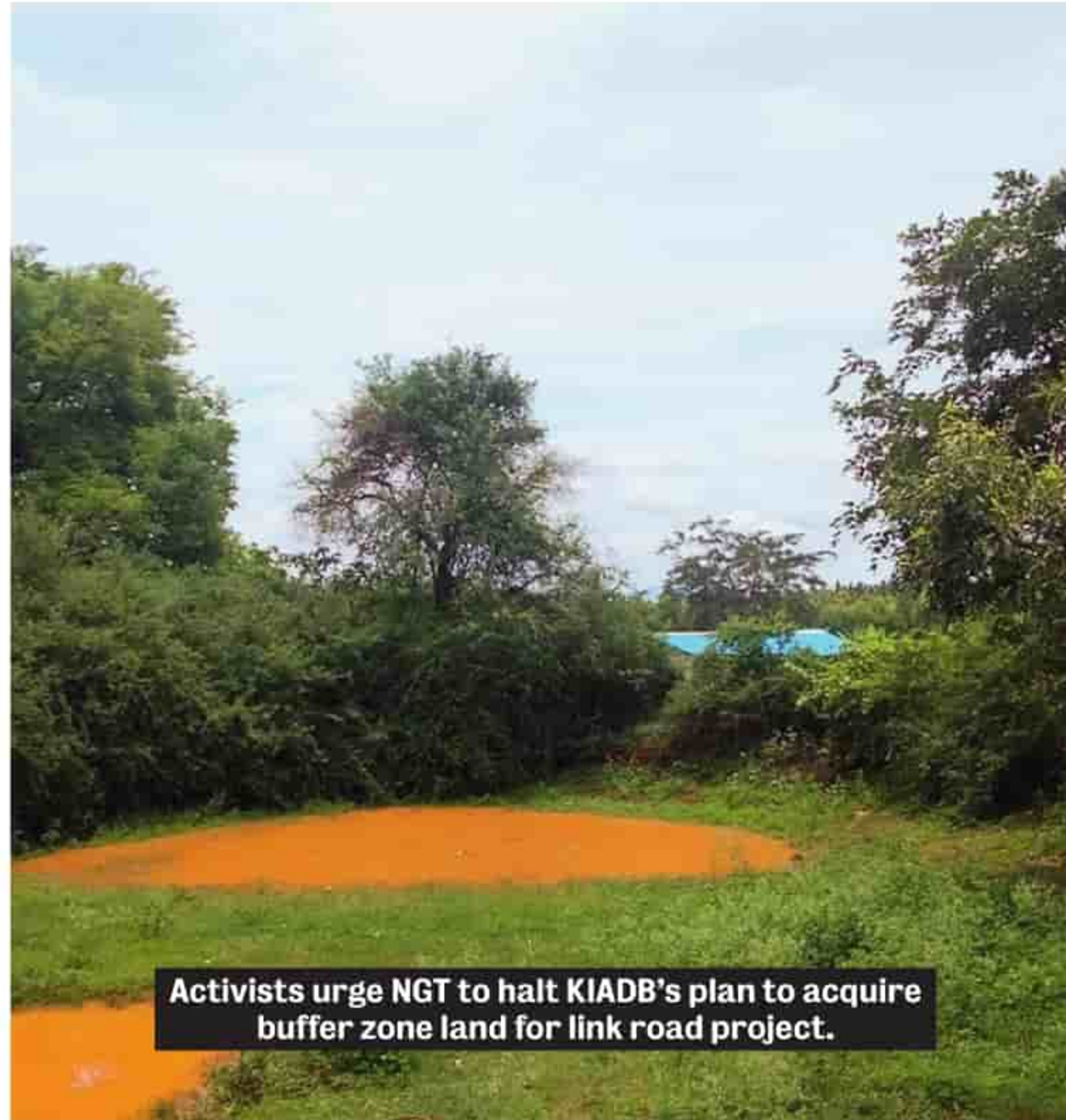
Despite complaints and official warnings, KIADB continues acquisition in Kongaiah Tank's buffer zone, alarming farmers and activists concerned about ecological and livelihood impacts

I Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Farmers and environmentalists are up in arms against Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) for embarking on acquiring the land in the buffer zone and catchment area of Kongaiah Tank near Hulikunte in Doddaballapur taluk. They complain that the KIADB has decided to acquire the land for the construction of the link road without due diligence.

The concerned farmers of Hulikunte and surrounding villages and the environmentalists wrote letters to the higher authorities, including Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), Karnataka Tank Conservation & Development Authority (KCTDA), State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority-Karnataka, and National Green Tribunal (NGT) seeking a direction to the KIADB not to acquire the land that comes under the buffer zone and catchment area for the construction of the proposed link road. "We have been striving hard to convince the KIADB authorities not to acquire the land that falls under the buffer zone of Kongaiah Tank that is the lifeline for farmers to irrigate agricultural land. We are not against the construction of the link road but the KIADB authorities have to find alternative land for the construction of the link road," said



"We are not against the construction of the link road but the KIADB authorities have to find alternative land for the construction of the link road"

— Raghu Rangaswamy, resident of Hulikunte

Raghu Rangaswamy, a resident of Hulikunte.

Expressing the similar opinion, Gopi Swamy, a farmer from Huli-

kunte, said the KIADB authorities have been busy in issuing notifications for the acquisition of the land along Kongaiah Tank. "The con-

struction of the link road prevents the flow of rain water into Kongaiah Tank. Many farmers depend on Kongaiah Tank for irrigation of their lands during the summer. I oppose the construction of the link road on the land considered as the buffer zone and catchment area as it affects the water body," said Gopi Swamy.

Expressing concern over the KIADB decision to go ahead with the acquisition of the land in the buffer zone and catchment area of Kongaiah Tank, R Anjaneya Reddy, a resident of Chikkaballapur who served as a member of Karnataka Ground Water Authority between 2012 and 2014, said the KIADB authorities should not only acquire the land in the buffer zone but also in the catchment area. "I oppose the acquisition of the land in the buffer zone as well as in the catchment area for the construction of the link road," said Anjaneya Reddy.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Tank Conservation & Development Authority sent a reminder to the Chief Executive Officer of KIADB to send the action taken report on the letter sent by it on May 2 based on the complaint lodged by Raghu Rangaswamy.

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board wrote a letter on April 28 to the Development Officer-03, KIADB to follow the norms while acquiring the land for the construction of the link road.

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Rain trouble

Silk Board



The upcoming metro station near Silk Board was waterlogged after a light pre-monsoon shower. If this is the start, how will commuters manage during peak rains?

Urban flooding

Benson Town



Heavy rain left several homes in Chinnappa Garden, 1st Cross Ramakka Block, waterlogged. Residents are struggling as floodwater enters their homes, damaging property and disrupting daily life.

Real-time flood alerts that never came

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BESCOM, and the Traffic Police, the centre had identified eight flood-prone zones within the BBMP jurisdiction: Bommanahalli (Zone 19), Dasarahalli (Zone 11), Bangalore East (Zone 29), Mahadevapura (Zone 30), Rajarajeshwari Nagar (Zone 29), Bangalore South (Zone 34), Bangalore West (Zone 38), and Yelahanka (Zone 10). In total, 200 flood-affected areas were mapped out, according to the April 2 circular.

Sources said that the department mandated that real-time flood warnings and alert messages must be issued to the public at least 12 hours in advance. Through the 'Bengaluru Megha Sandesha' mobile app, the Central Government's portal (www.varunamitra.karnataka.gov.in), and BBMP's Disaster Management core groups, timely updates on weather conditions, rainfall levels, potential flood zones,

alternate routes, lightning alerts, and water levels in key drainage systems are being provided every 12 hours. Additionally, advance warnings for the next 24 hours and subsequent three days were being disseminated.

The circular also included detailed recommendations on necessary actions to mitigate risks and enhance preparedness, emphasising the need for coordinated efforts among all agencies concerned to manage the impending monsoon challenges effectively.

However, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar claimed that the BBMP has fixed 70% of the 210 flood prone areas identified in Bengaluru city while work on the remaining 30% areas is going on. "We had identified 210 areas as flood prone in Bengaluru. Ever since I took over as the Bengaluru Development Minister, we have fixed flooding issues in 166 (70%) of those localities. Flood prevention work is currently going on in 24 areas while work would be taken up soon in the remaining 20 areas. We have built 197 km of storm water drains. Additionally, traffic police have identified 132 spots which are flooded during heavy rains. Of these, we have rectified issues in 82 spots and 41 spots are yet to be fixed. We are spending Rs 2,000 crore for storm water drains."

Who cleans your sewers?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

despite the Prohibition Act, 1993, the practice persists.

While manual scavenging occurs every day illegally, official data has recorded 96 deaths in Karnataka of which 42 were reported in Bengaluru in the past 30 years. "Complaints are usually filed only when creative or alert individuals take notice. The general public rarely raises objections. Manual scavenging occurs daily, but it often goes unnoticed as it happens at odd hours, sometimes at midnight, sometimes at 4 am and in different locations. One person does the cleaning, another handles the payments. There's a whole team assigned for it," Dr KB Obalesha, State Convenor of Safaikarmachari Kavalu Samiti (KSSK) told BM.

The lack of proper sewage management systems and alternative livelihood opportunities contributes to the continuation of manual scavenging. Enforcement challenges, coupled with the risk of retalia-

tion for raising concerns, further hinder efforts to eradicate this practice. Dr Obalesha explained, "Manual scavenging is like an alternative occupation. Though it's undignified work and no one values manual scavenging, there are lives also that depend on it when there is no other job."

From the city's core areas like Shivajinagar, Majestic, and KR Market to its outskirts such as Hebbal, Hesaraghatta, and Peenya, the lives of septic and sewer tank workers (SSWs) remain in disarray, with hardly any prospects for alternative employment.

"There are over 500 privately operated suction machines, each typically staffed by a driver and two to three workers. Every day, these teams clean household or compound pits and then dump the waste elsewhere. This too amounts to manual scavenging, but it goes unreported. For some, it has turned into a form of entrepreneurship; for others, it's a source of employment or income." However, Obalesha says, there could be nearly 25,000

manual scavengers in Bengaluru alone, without officially being employed as manual scavengers.

"People can file a complaint and highlight that manual scavenging is a banned practice. Unfortunately, most don't come forward. It's always better to take photos or videos as evidence before filing a complaint. The complaint shouldn't target the individual doing the cleaning, but should instead be directed to the official concerned, stating that such an incident occurred in a specific area. No one needs to blame the worker, just report the issue, and the authorities will be responsible for taking action against those involved," Dr Obalesha added.

However, the fact that those who raise concerns about the practice often face threats and violence underscores how deeply rooted the issue is. Obalesha explained, "Most people hesitate to file complaints, thinking it's not their concern. Even those who try to report it worry about possible backlash or whether some influential person is involved. This fear often escalates to physical assault, discouraging others from speaking out."

Janaushadhi centre okayed: Not biz, HC roots for welfare

Court says it cannot interfere merely because business prospect is threatened as one centre is too close to the other, woman entrepreneur gets final approval to operate medicine outlet

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The Karnataka High Court declined to prevent the final approval given to a woman entrepreneur for operating a Kendra under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in Kumbra Village, Puttur Taluk.

Justice M Nagaprasanna rejected the petition by Savinaya, who challenged the final approval granted to Sheela G Bhat for operating the Kendra. These Kendras provide quality medicines at reduced prices, offering 50% to 90% lower rates compared to market prices.

"What is projected by the petitioner is purported loss of business by granting another Kendra within a short distance, while it is not the case, as the facts bare consideration hereinabove. But, it would not be for this court to interfere merely because a business prospect is perceived to be threatened; rather, the Court must preserve the spirit of a welfare-oriented scheme designed for the many, not the few. There is no arbitrariness that is demonstrable or palpable in the case at hand. The geographical area that is contended to be overlapping, has not overlapped, as the application of the petitioner remained an application. Therefore, in conclusion, I find the petition is devoid of merit. No illegality, procedural infirmity or arbitrariness is discernable from



Janaushadhi Kendras provide quality medicines at reduced prices, offering 50% to 90% lower rates compared to market prices

the grant of approval to the 1st respondent, to iterate public interest would be ill-served if this Court were to interdict a lawful and beneficial initiative on such slender grounds." The petitioner argued against having two Kendras within 1.5 kilometres, noting that Bhat's Kendra was 600 metres from her approved location. She also claimed her application

should take precedence.

The respondents clarified that Kendras receive authorisation from the Central Implementing Agency. Bhat submitted applications on November 16, 2023 (offline) and December 1, 2023 (online), whilst the petitioner applied offline on December 5, 2023.

The policy maintains a minimum one-kilometre distance between outlets to ensure accessibility and fair

competition. The court observed that Bhat's application, being first and complete, received approval. An agreement was executed between the Deputy General Manager Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India, Assistant Manager Head Quarter Hubballi PMBJP, and Bhat.

The court dismissed the petitioner's claim about prior approval, stating: "The petitioner who did not get the approval finally, cannot contend her rights were crystallized

"The Court must preserve the spirit of a welfare-oriented scheme designed for the many, not the few. There is no arbitrariness in the case at hand" — HC bench

by the approval being taken to its logical conclusion. It was only an in-principle approval subject to final approval. This would not clothe any right in favour of the petitioner to contend that the Kendra that is now approved in favour of the 1st respondent is at a distance of less than one kilometre. It would have been an altogether different circumstance if the petitioner's Kendra was already in existence and another Kendra in 500 metres or less than one kilometre had emerged."

The court concluded that the petition lacked legal foundation and found no irregularities in the approval granted to Bhat.

Experts question elephant hand-over

As Karnataka hands over six more elephants to Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday in its bid to manage human-elephant conflict on Karnataka-AP border, wildlife conservationists have questioned the logic behind this move.

The transfer is happening as part of the agreement signed by South Indian states during the international conference on human-elephant conflict that was held in Bengaluru last year.

Wildlife conservationists say that when there is a need for trained elephants in Karnataka, one of the states with the highest human-elephant conflict cases, it is disappointing that the state has been giving away elephants to other states.

Notably, the issue of captured camp elephants being sent to other states has been highlighted in the past as well. According to data from the Karnataka Forest Department, in two years (2020-21 and 2022-23), Karnataka sent 130 elephants to various states across the country. As many as 56 tuskers in 2020-21 and 74 in 2022-23 were sent to various states such as Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Goa. In 2023-24, three elephants were sent

In July last year, nine trained elephants were sent to AP as a forest protection squad.

The six elephants to be gifted include Ranjan, Deva, Masthi, and Karuna, are being sent from the Dubare elephant camp in Kodagu district. Krishna and Abhimanyu are being sent from the Sakrebailu elephant camp in Shimoga district.

"The six lovely gifts from Karnataka are to be taken to Chittoor to augment the stock of captive elephants. The elephants are being 'gifted' to help mitigate human-elephant conflicts in Andhra. Ironically, Karnataka has the most incidents of man-animal conflicts. People, especially farmers and farm hands, are being trampled frequently in Hassan, Kodagu, Chamarajnagar, and Mysore," said Joseph Hoover, a former State Board for Wildlife member and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

Consequently, elephants are also being captured frequently to replenish the stock in Karnataka's elephant camps, allege experts.

"It is condemnable that the elephants which were sent from Sakrebailu to help wean a calf are being sent to Andhra, instead of them being returned to their established, familiar environment," said Hoover. — BMB



Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during the Congress party's 'Samarpane Sankalpa Rally' in Vijayanagara, on Tuesday

maiah steps into the third year of his current term, political observers are watching closely—will he break Devaraj Urs' record and go on to become the longest-serving CM from Mysuru? Only time will tell.

— BMB



A Chief Minister's tenure continues

Siddaramaiah nears Devaraj Urs' record as Chief Minister

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has completed two years in office in his second term as of May 20 and is now entering the third year of his tenure. With this, he inches closer to the record set by former CM D Devaraj Urs.

Devaraj Urs, who was elected six times from Hunsur in Mysuru district, served as Chief Minister twice. He completed a full term during his first tenure and served three years during his second stint. Siddaramaiah, who previously completed a full five-year term as Chief Minister from 2013 to 2018, holds the distinction of being the only CM after Urs to complete a full term in office. Having taken office again in 2023, Siddaramaiah now completes two years in his current tenure.

A Record-Breaker in Budget Presentations

Siddaramaiah, a former Finance Minister, Deputy CM, and now CM, has presented the state budget 16 times—more than any other leader in Karnataka's history. The previous record was held by former CM Ramakrishna Hegde, who presented 13 budgets.

Breaking the Chamarajanagar Myth

There has long been a superstition that any CM who visits Chamarajanagar district loses power within six months. Siddaramaiah defied this myth by visiting Chamarajanagar 20 times during his current tenure, proving the belief unfounded.

Most-Elected MLA from Mysuru Region

Siddaramaiah also holds the record for the highest number of legislative assembly victories from the undivided Mysuru district. He has been elected as an MLA nine

times—from Chamundeshwari in 1983, 1985, 1994, 2004, 2006, Varuna in 2008, 2013, 2023, and from Badami in 2018. In comparison, Gundlupet's K.S. Nagarathnamma was elected seven times, while Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa (T. Narasipura), K. Venkatesh (Periyapatna), and Tanveer Sait (Narasimharaja) have each won six times. Devaraj Urs, on the other hand, had won six times from Hunsur.

Power Without Pause Since 2004

Since 2004, Siddaramaiah has held one significant position or another. He was Deputy CM for the second time in 2004. After winning from Varuna in 2008, he became the Leader of the Opposition a year later. In 2013, he returned as CM for the first time. In 2018, after winning from Badami, he served as the Leader of the Opposition for 14 months. In 2023, winning again from Varuna, he assumed office as CM for the second time. As Siddara-

Bengaluru tax scam busted wide

In a significant enforcement drive, the Commercial Taxes Department's Enforcement Wing (South Zone) has uncovered a large-scale tax evasion racket during simultaneous inspections across more than

20 key commercial locations in Bengaluru.

Areas such as Chickpet, Avenue Road, Cottonpet, Balepet, and B.V.K. Iyengar Road was raided, with traders dealing in electronics, textiles,

ready-made garments, automobiles, and handicrafts coming under the scanner. Officials revealed that many traders were selling goods without issuing invoices, a clear violation of the GST Act.

The inspections also exposed unregistered warehouses and illegal business operations, resulting in penalties. Investigators found that several traders had been transporting goods such as electronics, garments, and metal products from other states without valid documentation and selling them locally, caus-

ing a significant revenue loss to the state exchequer.

The crackdown extended to the iron and steel sector as well, where TMT bars used in construction were being sold without proper invoices. Over 75 vehicles carrying such goods were seized in the past month.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, V V N S S Rupesh GUDIVADA s/o, Lakshmana Murthy G, R/o #39 1st Floor 18th Cross Amruthahalli B'uru 560092 have changed my name to GUDIVADA RUPESH for all purposes.

I, SURESHA H, Residing at #549, 3rd Cross, Ramanna Lyt, Avalahalli Main Rd, Bengaluru - 560077, have changed my name to SURESH H, vide affidavit dated 16/05/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore

I Dipak Kumar Gupta S/O, Hari Krishn Gupta R/o Janaadhar Shubha Phase 2 T18 505 Medhahalli, Thattanhalli Attebele Anekal Road Bangalore - 562107 Karnataka have changed my name to Dipak Kumar Gupta.

I, DHARANI JAHAGIRDAR Residing at Flat 401, MRC 302 1st Cross Rd, BHCS Layout Canara Bank Colony, Bangalore - 560061 have changed my name to DHARANI SHRINIVAS JAHAGIRDAR vide affidavit dated 16/05/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore

I, Suma R, residing at No.748, 4th Block, D Group Layout, Lingadeeranahalli, Andrahalli main road, Bangalore-560091 here by declare that my minor daughter name KEERTHI GOWDA and KEERTHI K, both the names belongs to her only, vide affidavit dt: 19.05.2025 Notary Devaraja E, Bangalore.

I, SHILPABEN HARILAL GORANI W/o JIGNESH VALANI R/o No.63 Silver Cloud Layout Kalkere Main Road, Horemavu B'uru 560043 have changed my name to Shilpa Valani for all purposes

I, SWETA SAH W/O Vikash Kumar Gupta residing at 11601, Sattva East Crest, Bengaluru 560049. I shall henceforth be known as SWETA ANIRUDH SAH vide affidavit dated 17-05-2025 at Bengaluru.

I, PRADEEP KUMAR S/O SHIVARAMA SHETTY, R/O FLAT NO 139, 1ST FLOOR DS MAX STONESCAPE APARTMENT, ANJANAPURA 5TH G BLOCK GOLLAHALLI, ANJANAPURA Bengaluru Karnataka 560108 have changed my name to PRADEEP SHETTY for all future purposes.

I, Akshay Kumar Narendra Kumar Ratanpara S/o Narendra Kumar Bhagvanji Ratanpara Aged About 31 Years R/at Flat No.205, M Block, BML Palms Apartment, JB Kaval, Jamia Masjid Road, M.S.Palya, Bengaluru - 560097 have changed my name to Akshay Kumar Vide Affidavit Dtd:19/05/2025 Sworn Before Notary Uday Kumar K,B'uru.

I, SUSY JOSE D/o. THATTAMPARAMBIL MICHAEL JOSE W/o. Sri. Shaju Resident at No. 15, Ground Floor, 14th Cross, Kalyan Nagar, T. Dasarahalli Post, Bengaluru-560 057 have changed my name to SUSI SHAJU D/o. JOSE vide affidavit dated 12.04.2025 Sworn before notary: V Anjanappa, Bangalore

I, Sundaravalli Gangadharan R/o 65/1, 1st Block, BEL Layout, Vidyanayapura, Bengaluru 560097, have changed my name to Sundaravalli Gangadharan

I, SHAZADI BANO D/O SARDAR SHARIEF, Resident of No. 97, Rehmania Masjid, Kogilu Layout, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064. have changed my name to SHAZADI BANU vide affidavit dated 12.04.2025 Sworn before notary: H K Gopalagowda, Bangalore

I Vansh S/O Brijesh Arvind Shah R/o Bangalore have changed my name to Vansh Brijesh Shah vide affidavit dt 28th April 2025 sworn before notary B Chitra blore.

I, SIDDICK NAGATHE BASAPUR, Residing at #400,3rd Main, 2nd Stage, KHB Colony, Basaveshwara Nagar Bengaluru - 560079, have changed my name to SOLOMON NAGATHE BASAPUR, vide affidavit dated 14/05/2025 sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore

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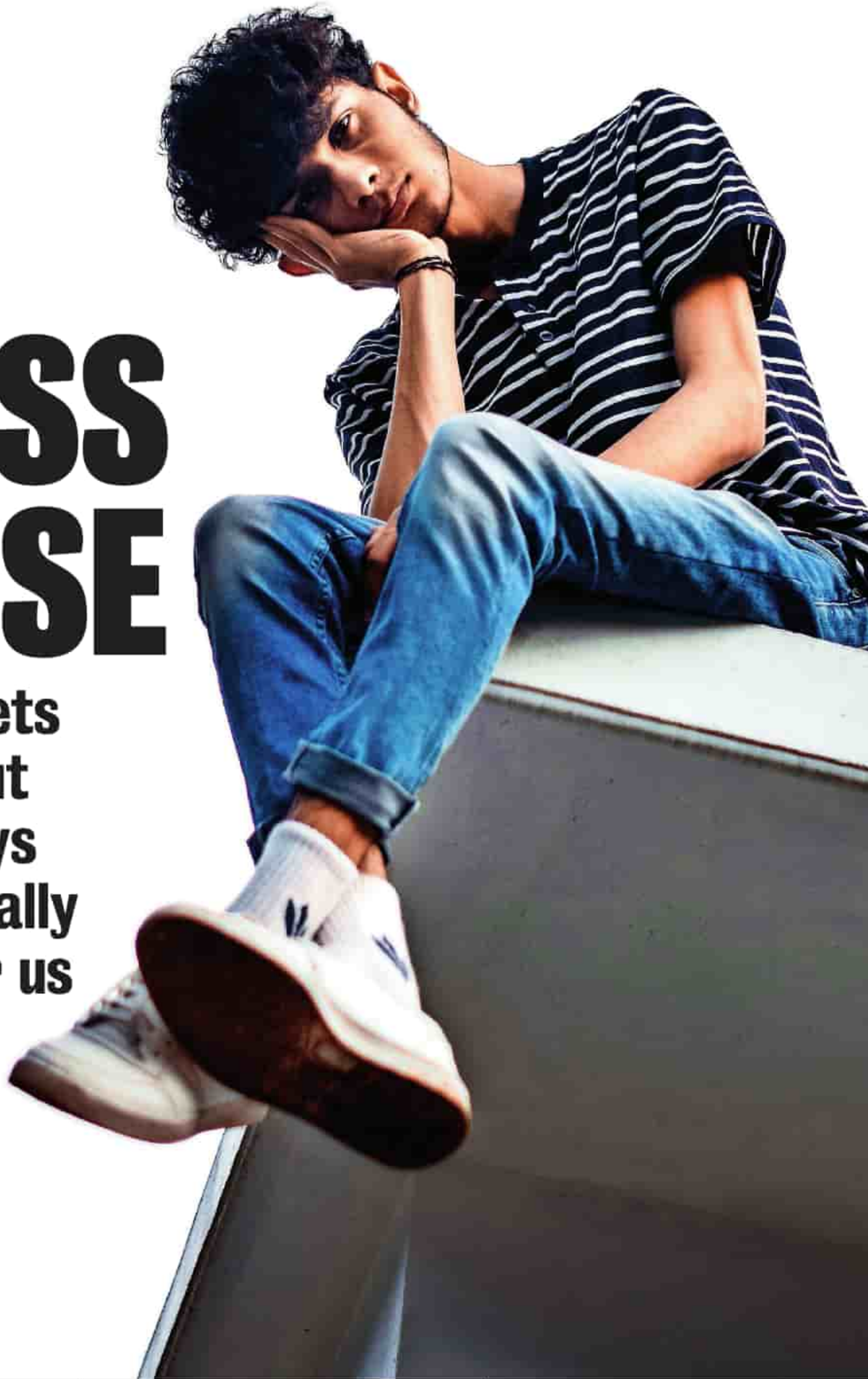
HEALTH TIP: Turmeric and ginger tea promotes liver health and combats bloating



Green tea combined with lemon supports fat-burning and gives your body a refreshing cleanse

PRESS PAUSE

Boredom gets bad rap. But science says it can actually be good for us



We have all experienced boredom – that feeling of waning interest or decreased mental stimulation.

Eventually we lose focus, we disengage. Time seems to pass slowly, and we may even start to feel restless. Whether it be watching a movie that disappoints, a child complaining that “there’s nothing to do”, or an adult zoning out during a meeting – boredom is a universal experience.

Generally defined as difficulty maintaining attention or interest in a current activity, boredom is commonly viewed as a negative state that we should try to avoid or prevent ourselves from experiencing.

But what if there’s another way to view boredom, as a positive state? Could learning to embrace boredom be of benefit?

The brain on boredom

The brain network is a system of interconnected regions that work together to support different functions. We can liken it to a city where suburbs (brain regions) are connected by roads (neural

pathways), all working together to allow information to travel efficiently.

When we experience boredom – say, while watching a movie – our brain engages specific networks. The attention network prioritises relevant stimuli while filtering out distractions and is active when we commence the movie.

However, as our attention wanes, activity in the attention network decreases, reflecting our diminished ability to maintain focus on the unengaging content. Likewise, decreased activity occurs in the frontoparietal or executive control network due to the struggle to maintain engagement with the unengaging movie.

Simultaneously, the default mode network activates, shifting our attention toward internal thoughts and self-reflection. This is a core function of the default mode network, referred to as introspection, and suggestive of a strategy for coping with boredom.

This complex interplay of networks involves several key brain regions “working together” during the state of boredom. The insula is a key hub for sensory and emotional processing. This

region shows increased activity when detecting internal body signals – such as thoughts of boredom – indicating the movie is no longer engaging. This is often referred to as “interoception”.

The amygdala can be likened to an internal alarm system. It processes emotional information and plays a role in forming emotional memories. During boredom, this region processes associated negative emotions, and the ventral medial prefrontal cortex motivates us to seek alternative stimulating activities.

Boredom versus overstimulation

We live in a society that subjects us to information overload and high stress. Relatedly, many of us have adopted a fast-paced lifestyle, constantly scheduling ourselves to keep busy. As adults we juggle work and family. If we have kids, the habit of filling the day with schooling and after-school activities allows us to work longer hours.

In between these activities, if we have time to pause, we may be on our screens constantly organising, updating, or scrolling

to simply stay occupied. As a result, adults inadvertently model the need to be constantly “on” to younger generations.

This constant stimulation can be costly – particularly for our nervous system. Our overscheduling can feed into overstimulation of the nervous system. The sympathetic nervous system which manages our fight-or-flight response is designed to deal with times of stress.

However, when we are constantly stressed by taking in new information and juggling different activities, the sympathetic nervous system can stay activated for too long, due to the cumulative effects of repeated exposure to different stressors. This is sometimes referred to as “allostatic overload”. It is when our nervous system becomes overwhelmed, keeping us in a heightened state of arousal, which can increase our risk of anxiety.

Eliminating the state of boredom deprives us of a simple and natural way to reset our sympathetic nervous system.

Could boredom be good for us?

In small doses, boredom is the necessary counterbalance to the overstimulated world in which we live. It can offer unique benefits for our nervous system and our mental health. This is opposed to long periods of boredom where increased default mode network activity may be associated with depression.

There are several benefits of giving ourselves permission to be occasionally bored:

- improvements in creativity, allowing us to build “flow” in our thoughts
- develops independence in thinking and encourages finding other interests rather than relying on constant external input
- supports self-esteem and emotional regulation, because unstructured times can help us sit with our feelings which are important for managing anxiety
- encourages periods without device use and breaks the loop of instant gratification that contributes to compulsive device use
- rebalances the nervous system and reduces sensory input to help calm anxiety.

Embrace the pause

Anxiety levels are on the rise worldwide, especially among our youth. Many factors contribute to this trend. We are constantly “on”, striving to ensure we are scheduling for every moment. But in doing so, we are potentially depriving our brains and bodies of the downtime they need to reset and recharge.

We need to embrace the pause. It is a space where creativity can prosper, emotions can be regulated, and the nervous system can reset.

(By Michelle Kennedy and Daniel Hermens, University of the Sunshine Coast, *The Conversation*)



All you need to know about...

Psoriasis risks

Lingering Inflammation

While patients with psoriasis -- a chronic skin condition -- respond well to treatment with biologics, inflammation can linger, leading to broader health implications such as obesity and cardiovascular and fatty liver disease, according to a study.

Beyond skin

Psoriasis, with its systemic inflammatory nature, high risk of cardiovascular disease, and frequent use of biologic drugs, could provide a valuable framework for studying residual inflammation.

The study, published in the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*, could lead to more targeted and effective treatments that address the systemic aspects of psoriasis, beyond just the skin.

Residual effect

“Despite excellent control of skin disease, a substantial percentage of psoriasis patients demonstrate residual systemic inflammation,” said Joel M Gelfand, Department of Dermatology, at the University of Pennsylvania’s Perelman School of Medicine, US.

“These findings emphasise that just treating the skin signs of psoriatic disease is not sufficient, and patients often need additional approaches to lowering systemic inflammation,” Gelfand added.

Obesity, liver disease

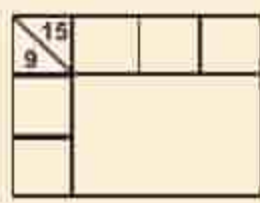
For the observational study, the team assessed residual inflammation in 209 psoriasis patients across three international cohorts (Spain, the US, and Sweden) who had achieved a no or mild psoriasis on stable biologic therapy. They found that residual inflammation was present in 36.3 per cent of these patients and was significantly linked to higher body mass index (BMI), metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD), increased baseline systemic inflammation, and greater adipose tissue. The researchers suggest a more intensive cardiovascular risk assessment and management of psoriasis patients.

This could involve closer monitoring of inflammatory markers like high-sensitivity C-reactive protein, as well as parameters related to liver health.

— IANS

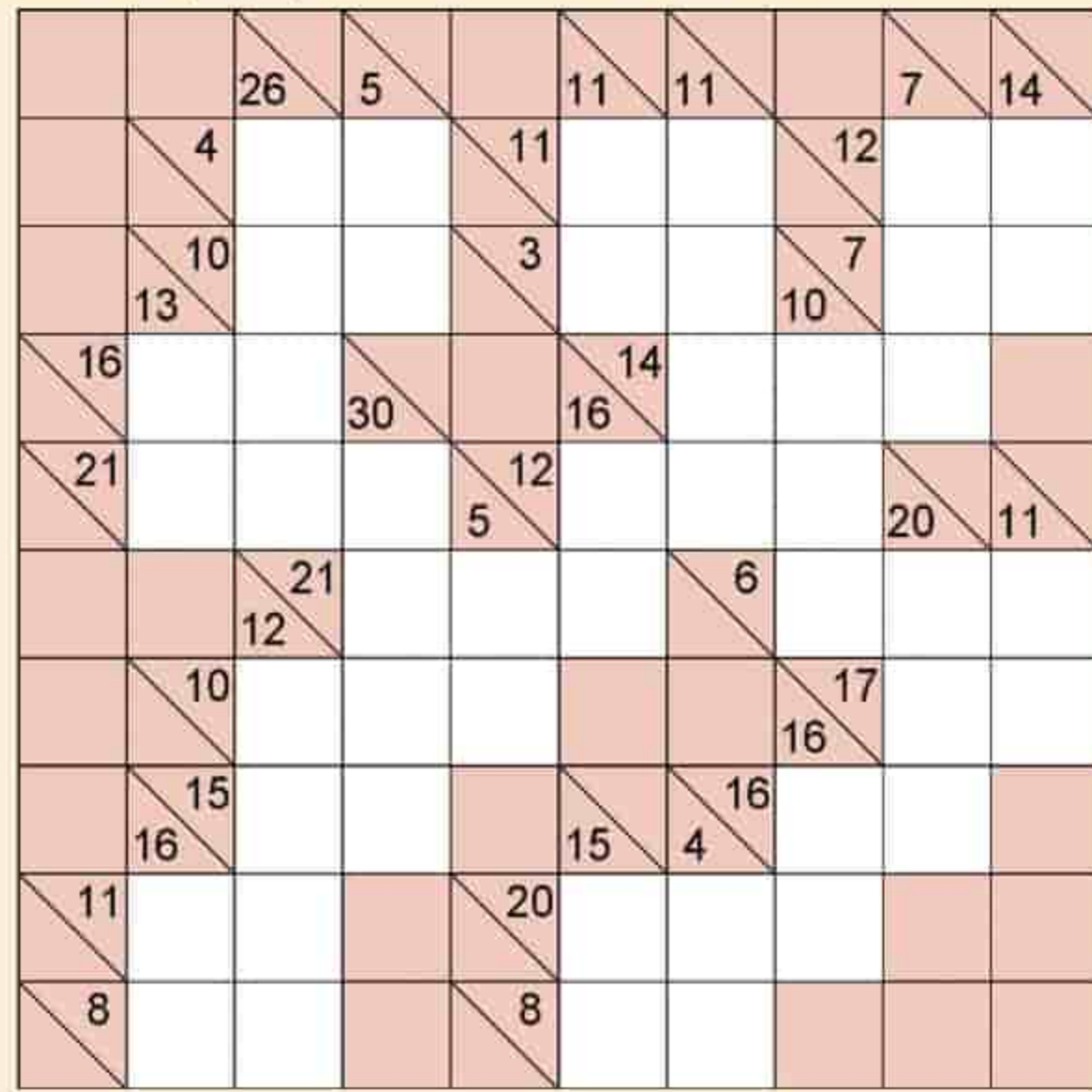
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

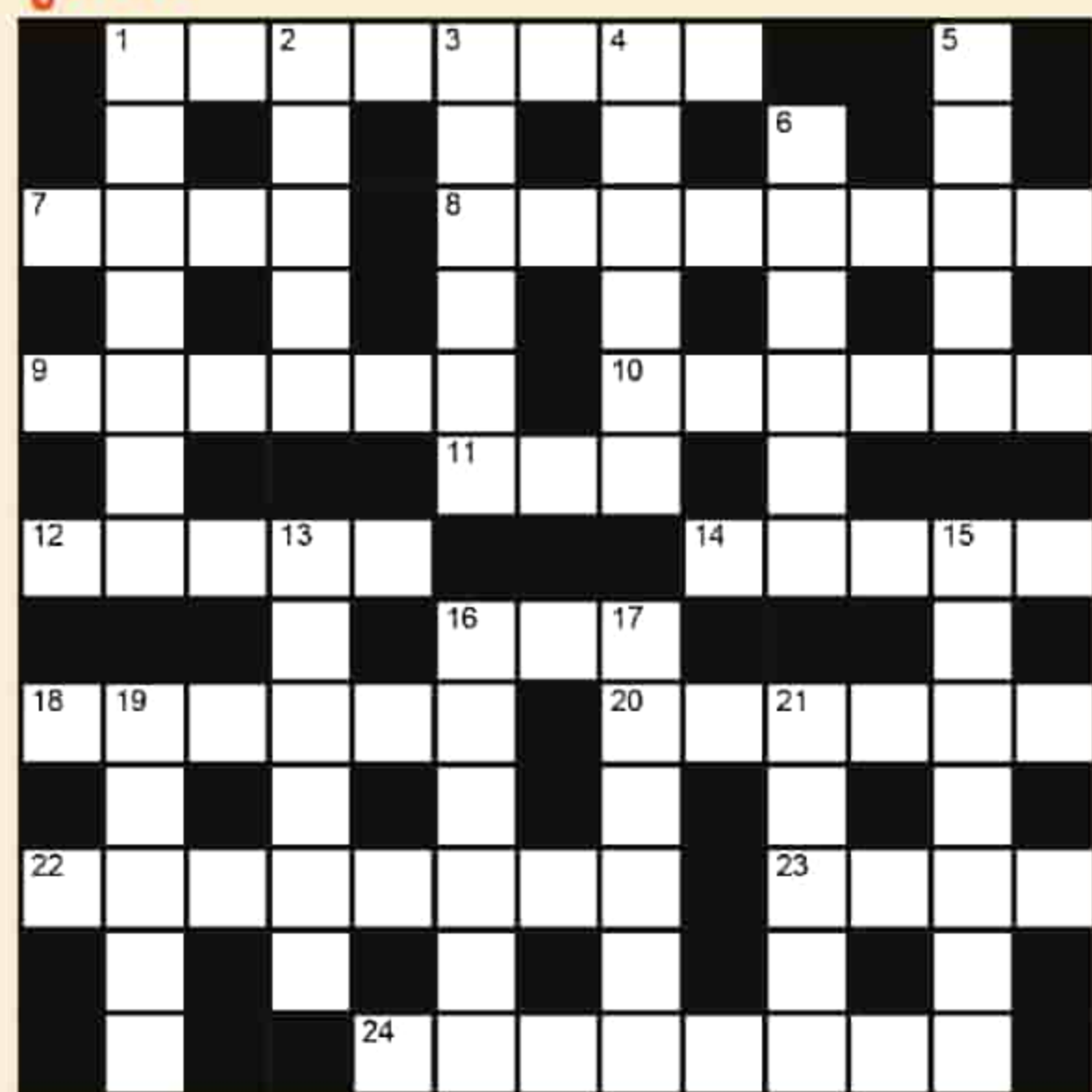


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Accused by legal process (8)
- 7 The day of reckoning (4)
- 8 Took another look at (8)
- 9 Elevates (6)
- 10 In a boorish way (6)
- 11 Greek goddess of dawn (3)
- 12 Unfreezes (5)
- 14 Karnataka town whose name is associated with South Indian food (5)
- 16 Thai language—"Ola" anagram? (3)
- 18 Awaken; reach (4,2)
- 20 Join together (6)
- 22 ___ of Light : Divali, of course? (8)
- 23 Wild goat (4)
- 24 Close call (4,4)

DOWN

- 1 Ancient period (4,3)
- 2 Ditches (5)
- 3 Cadaver (6)
- 4 Young eels (6)
- 5 Perfect (5)
- 6 Repaired (6)
- 13 A score (6)
- 15 Appropriates or pinches (7)
- 16 Paris tourist attraction (6)
- 17 A keeper of stables in the days gone by (6)
- 19 Unfolds, commences (5)
- 21 Roman 58 (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS T
IAAE GU WSQ DBC KSAUQ
IRQBUNEQU TQIQCT AC WSQ
IQEDGUUGAC AJ BCASQSE.



Linemaro

Hasn't your movie come out recently?



Mindchow

You gain strength, courage, and confidence by each experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face



Joke of the day

I think I am, therefore I am... I think.

Loop

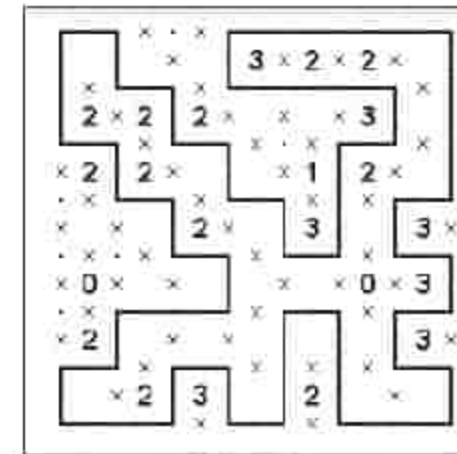
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

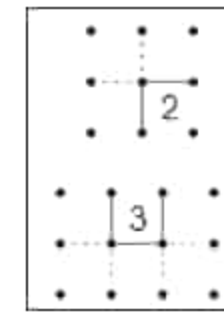
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

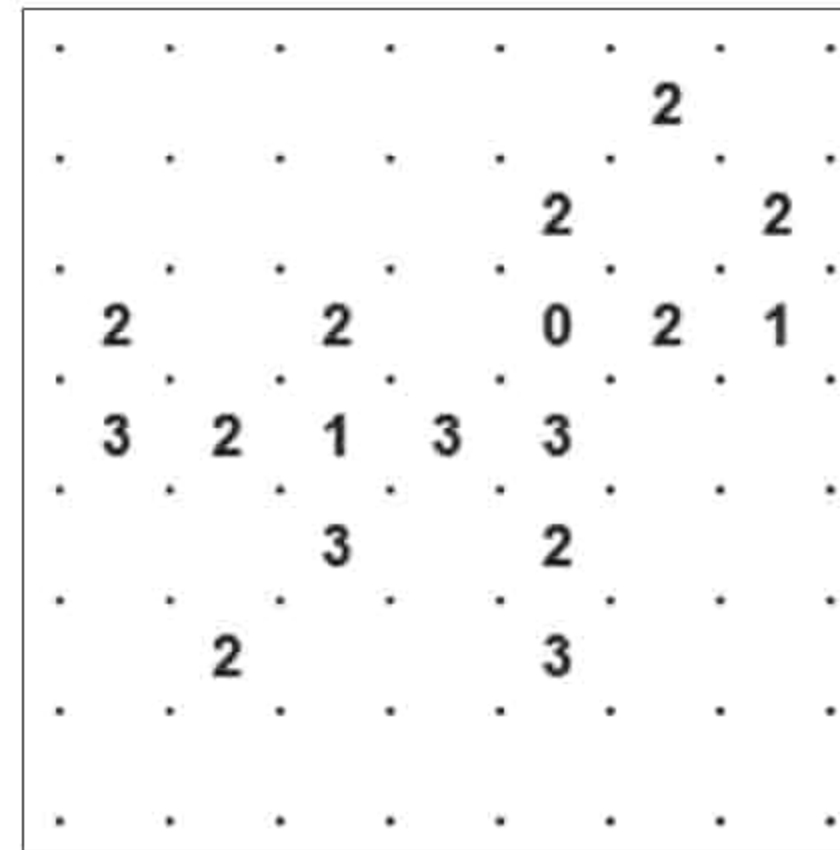
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



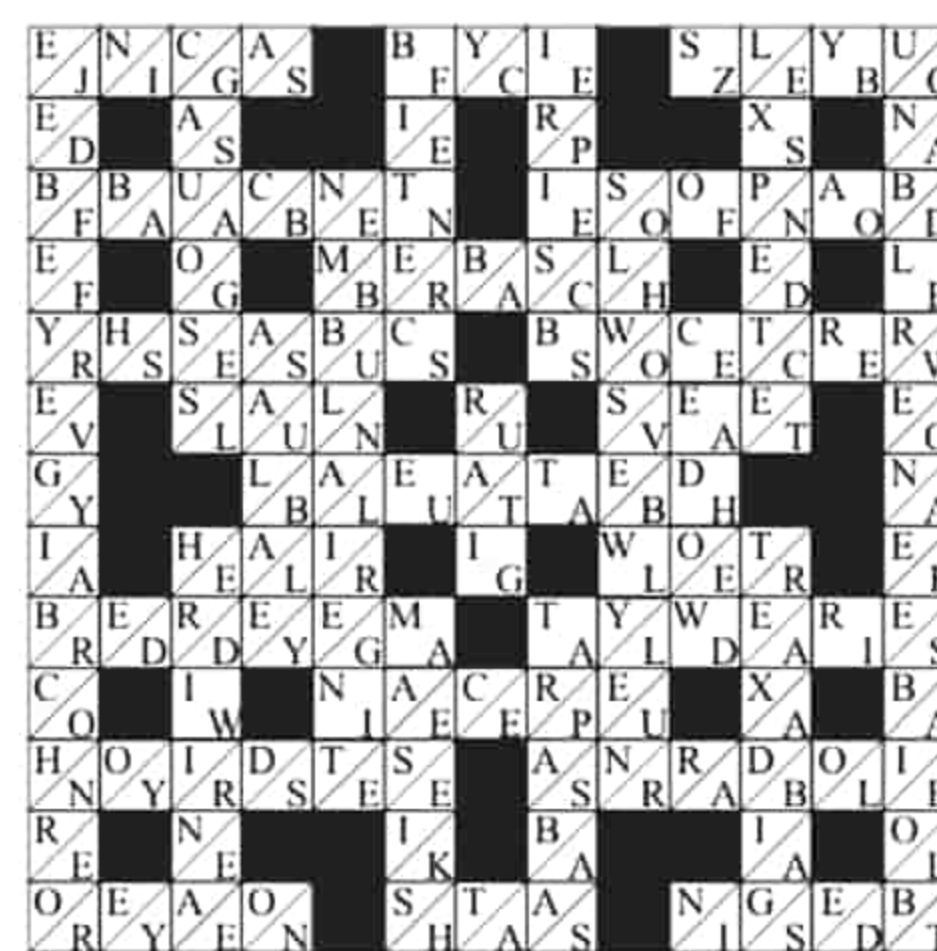
(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

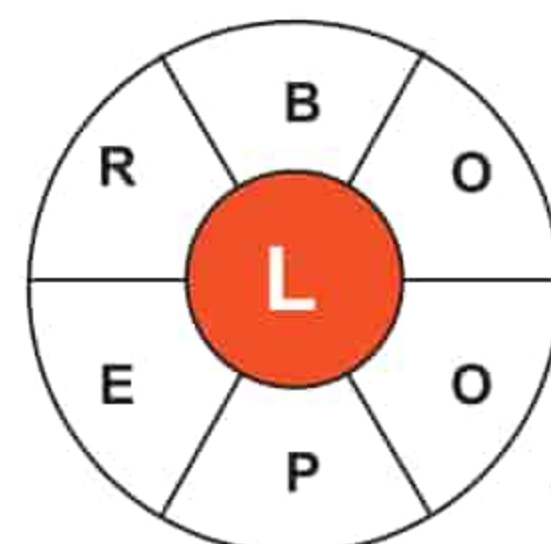
- 1 Daubs; 6 Law go;
- 7 One or; 8 Rag SS;
- 9 Herat

DOWN

- 1 Be rag; 2 A Argo;
- 3 Lunar; 4 Dotes;
- 5 Shows

Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?

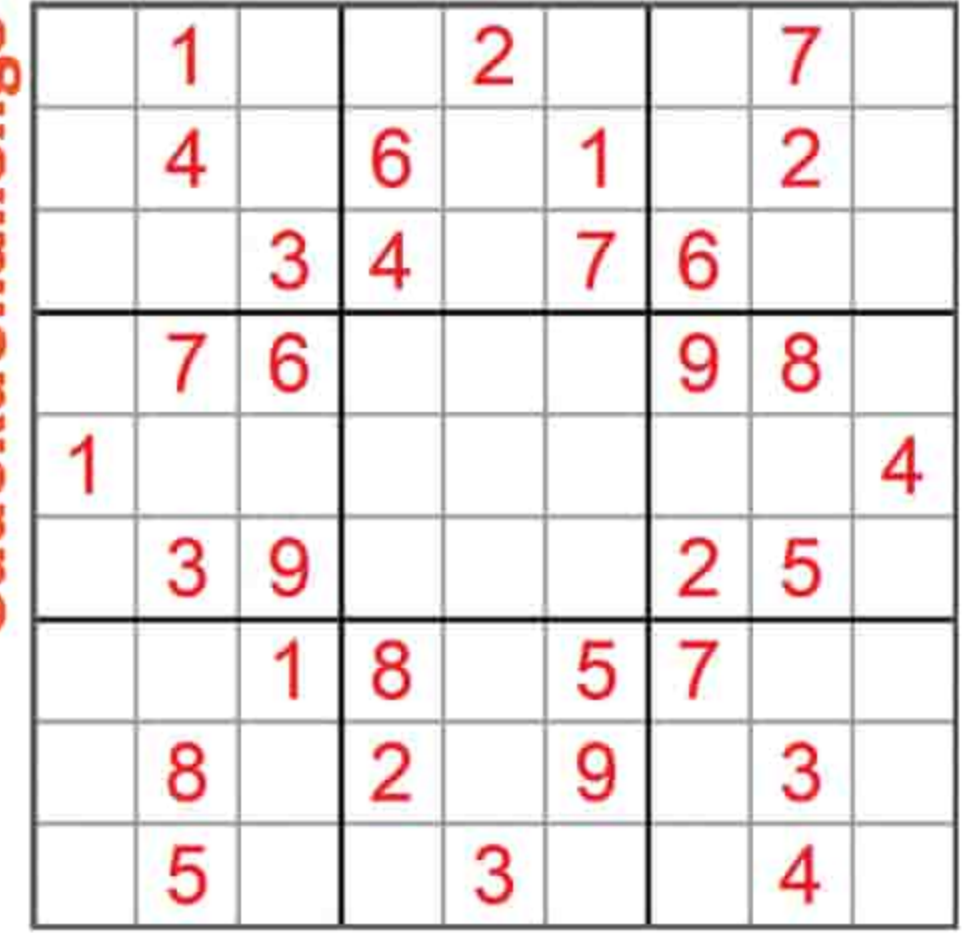


Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

08 Average; 09 Good; 11 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Easy

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

2 2 7 7 = 4

Medium

5 4 3 1 = 2

Hard

2 3 5 3 = 9

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Slipper is different. 2. Ball is moved. 3. Crib railing is higher. 4. Baby's mouth is different. 5. Woman's leg is moved. 6. Piece is added to mobile.

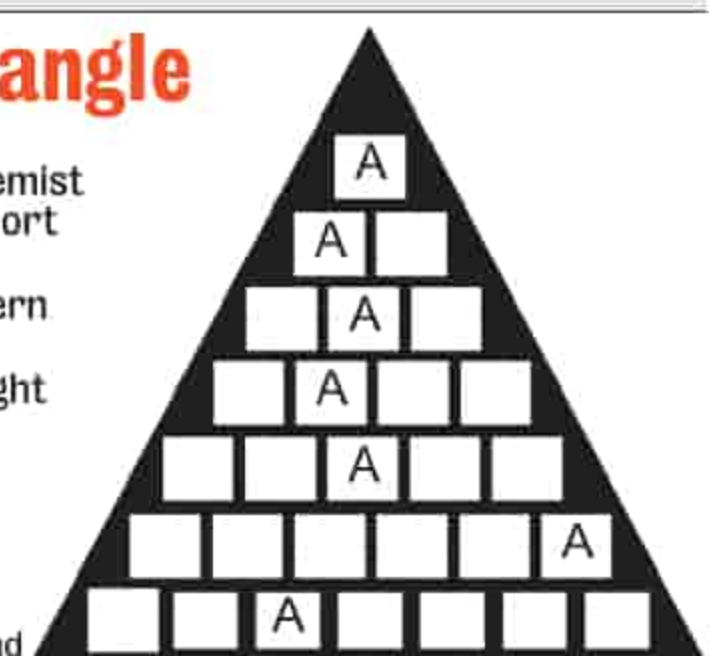
Riddler

What does this represent? SPIBERED

Alpha triangle

- 1 Blood gr.
- 2 Silver for the chemist
- 3 Periodical, for short
- 4 Ready to play
- 5 Celebrity's concern
- 6 Mystery
- 7 Cheerful and bright

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



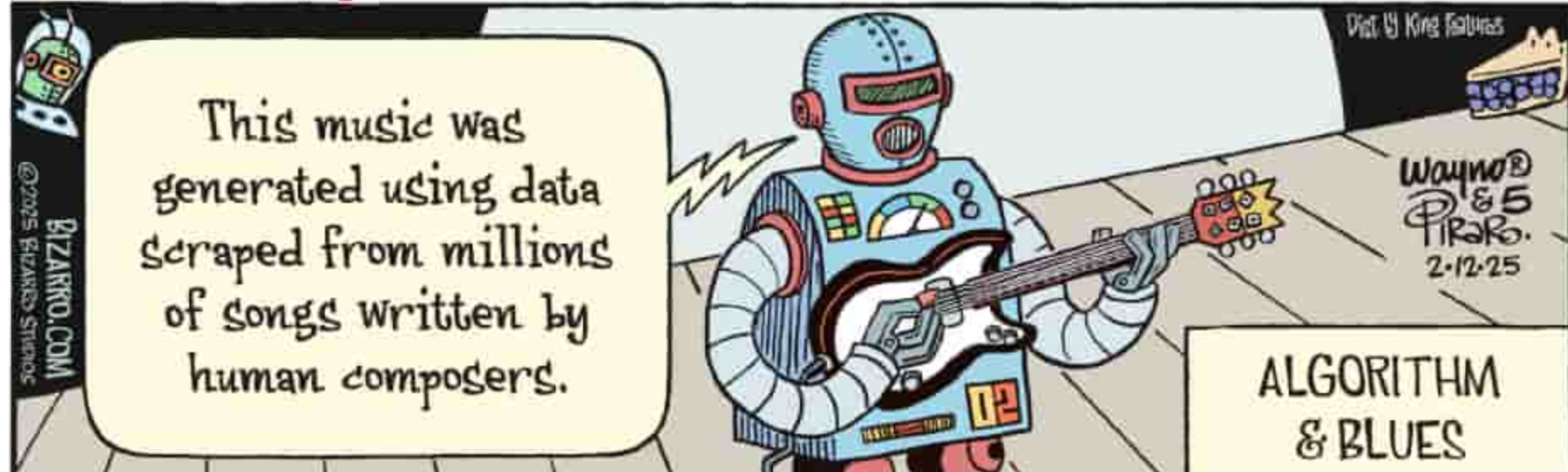
made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip



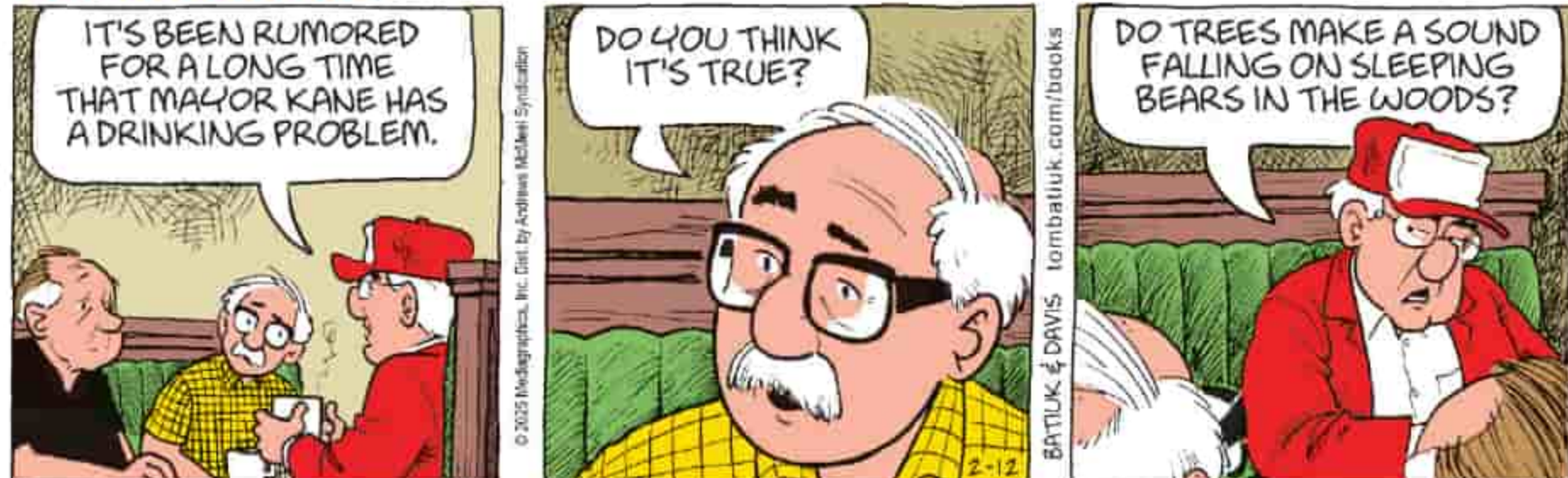
Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Today you may feel low on energy, with potential health concerns contributing to nervousness and anxiety. Avoid making important investments, especially in business or real estate. Refrain from long-distance travel or rush driving. Practicing meditation can help calm your mind and bring clarity during this unsettling time.



Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

You may feel emotionally unsettled today due to hidden fears and lack of trust. It is advised to engage in prayer or meditation to overcome these mental challenges. Avoid making hasty decisions. With elder's support, you may find peace and regain focus by evening.



Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Dissatisfaction may arise today due to lack of cooperation from others. Practice patience, especially when handling documents—read carefully before signing anything. Avoid unnecessary or impulsive purchases. Students should adopt a calm and focused approach to their studies.



Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

The blessings of elders may bring a sense of peace and happiness. Financially, previous losses may now turn into gains, boosting your savings and encouraging plans for future investments, particularly for your children. You may enjoy quality time and good food at home. Health concerns related to the throat, teeth, ears, or nose may improve.



Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

You'll likely stay engaged with work and networking today. With the support of your connections, a significant business opportunity may arise. New partnerships and investments may boost business prospects. Emotionally, your relationship with your spouse is set to grow stronger.



Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

A highly energetic and focused day awaits. Postponed projects may gain momentum with support from subordinates. You might embark on a short trip related to family matters. Job seekers may receive positive news or new opportunities.



Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Today you are supported by the blessings of elders, which strengthens your patience and concentration at work. Family health improves, and time spent with elders brings joy. An encounter with an influential person may benefit your career. Romantic moments may deepen emotional bonds at home.



Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Self-reflection may bring a renewed sense of confidence and clarity. You'll likely sharpen your focus and get closer to your goals. Creative interests may draw your attention—such as art, cinema, or lifestyle aesthetics. By day's end, a sense of satisfaction may settle in, and opponents are likely to pose less of a challenge.



Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Family matters may demand your attention today. Be cautious in your interactions—avoid arguments or arrogance in personal affairs, as they may disrupt harmony. Trust your intuition when considering financial investments or business decisions.



Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

A spiritual mindset governs your day. You may feel compelled to help others or contribute to charity. Your positive actions and good karma may lead to success in challenging projects. A sense of divine support may surround you. Interest in spirituality or the occult may increase. Students are encouraged to dive deeper into their studies.



Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Creativity will guide your actions today, especially in upgrading your home or workspace. Your commitment to goals remains strong, but mental fatigue may lead to stress and disrupt domestic peace. Students should avoid distractions and maintain steady focus to succeed academically.



Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Inner strength may guide you to start new projects or innovations at work. A large order in a family business could open growth opportunities. Increased responsibilities at work may keep you busy. Job seekers may find suitable positions. Family harmony improves, thanks to better understanding with your spouse.



KIDZONE



P Hitakshi, Bengaluru



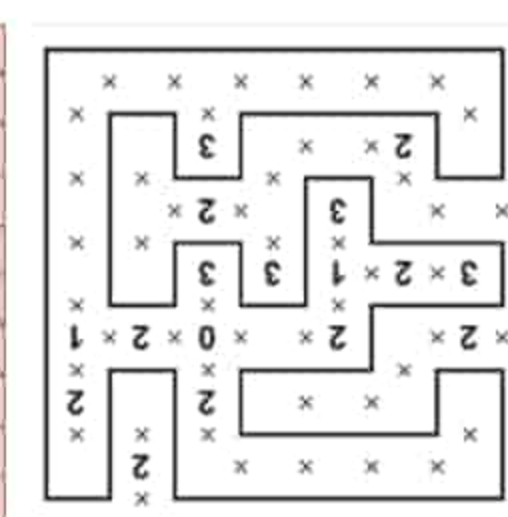
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SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



LOOP



ALPHA



SUDOKU



MENSAPUZZLE



QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULLS' EYE



RIDDLE

Stunning Ri at Cannes red carpet

Rihanna made a surprise appearance at Cannes Film Festival and walked the red carpet at the Palais to support her partner A\$AP Rocky at the premiere of 'Highest 2 Lowest'.

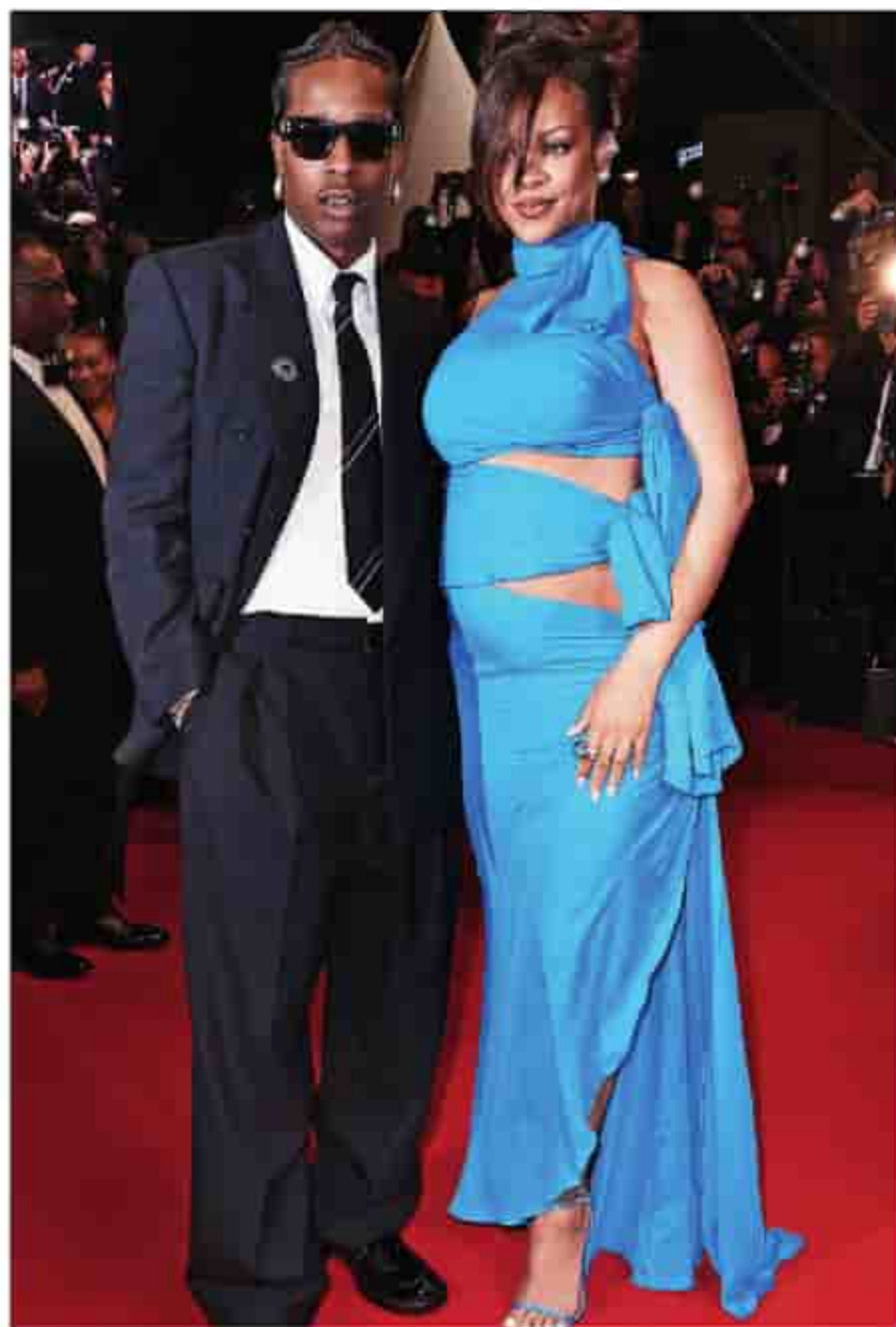
The singer stunned everyone with her mesmerising look. She opted for a sky-blue dress for the star-studded event as she accompanied her partner Rocky, who stars alongside Denzel Washington in Spike Lee's latest film, reported Variety.

Rihanna and A\$AP Rocky are expecting their third child together, and mumma-to-be has officially revealed the news on the 2025 Met Gala red carpet earlier in May.

The two are parents to two sons, RZA, 3, and Riot, 20 months, as per the outlet.

Rocky talked about being in a power couple with Rihanna, who recently released a new song for the upcoming Smurfs' film in which she plays Smurfette. "We both got movies coming out the same year," Rocky shared, adding, "I didn't even realize that. Wow! Shout-outs to us, we've been working," reported Variety.

— IANS



Clog story

She may rule the red carpet, but when it comes to fashion, Rashmika Mandanna doesn't always walk the straight and narrow — especially in stilettos.

Recently, the Animal actress strutted in clogs instead of classic heels, Rashmika reveals she's long had a tug-of-war with high heels. "Heels and I have a bit of a love-hate relationship! There's something so classic and powerful about slipping into a pair of pointy heels, but let's be honest, they can be real 'frenemies.' I've had my fair share of glamorous moments in heels, and while they look stunning, sometimes I end up wobbling out with a little regret," she tells us. While most would stick to playing it safe, Rashmika has never been one to follow the herd. Her latest style statement? Clogs — bold, comfy, and unapologetically fun. And she's not just walking the walk — she's now the new face of Crocs. "They are an all-time favourite because of their fun, bold colours," she shares.

— Vinay MR Mishra, ETimes



Sassy at 50

Lisa Ray emphasized the importance of viewing menopause and midlife as profound, natural transitions rather than consumer-driven trends. The actress also added that turning 50 was a "turning point" in her life.

Lisa took to Instagram, where she penned her "thought provoking post." She wrote: "This compelling and thought provoking post has to be shared widely. I sincerely hope both menopause and midlife is not hijacked into a solely opportunist- consumerist space. We certainly are seeing the signs. On social media at least (sic)."

Lisa shared that turning 50 was a transformative moment, allowing her to embrace aging with confidence, curiosity, and joy. Openly discussing midlife experiences with her close friend has been an empowering and liberating journey.

— IANS



SPELLS TROUBLE

Fans upset with mistake in placecard at event PC was attending

Priyanka Chopra made heads turn at a star-studded event in Sicily, Italy, on Monday, joining global celebrities for a glamorous evening. She later shared glimpses of her luxe work trip on Instagram—featuring dazzling outfits, breathtaking views, and mouth-watering cuisine. But fans quickly noticed a glaring error: her name was misspelt on a placecard, sparking a flurry of reactions online.

Priyanka Chopra also shared a photo from the elegant sit-down dinner at the event, where a close-up of her placecard revealed a spelling blunder—it read "Pryianka Chopra Jonas." Other snaps from her trip included a bubbly flute of champagne, a delicious plate of pasta, and the stunning view from her room, giving fans a peek into her lavish Sicilian getaway.

Many fans were excited to catch a glimpse of Priyanka's Sicily work trip, praising her stunning look and elegant designer dress. The gorgeous photos sparked plenty of admiration and love across social media. While one fan wrote, 'ABSOLUTE STUNNER', another one added, 'Classy mama'.

Meanwhile, some fans were annoyed by the glaring typo on her place card—spelling her name as "Pryianka." They felt it was unacceptable for a brand to get their ambassador's name wrong, especially at such a high-profile event. While one user wrote, 'There's a spelling mistake @ priyankachopra they've spelled your name incorrect @bvlgari', another one added, "I find it racist and offensive when people cannot be bothered to check the spelling of an individual's name. It's just sad and I've experienced it countless times'.

— ETimes



Retro style

The team of Kannada movie Sarala Subbarao, set in 1971, unveiled one song from the film. Manju Swaraj is the director while Lohith Nanjundaiah is bankrolling the movie under the Riyan Creations banner. Manju Swaraj said the name of the protagonist in the movie is Sarala Subbarao and the script of the movie is in a unique retro style. "Lohith Nanjundaiah readily agreed to bankroll this movie when I narrated the script to him.

He also assured that all amenities would be provided for the shooting without compromising with quality. Ajay Rao and Misha Narang are the lead pair. Misha Narang is busy learning Kannada for this movie," the director said.

He said the movie has an ensemble cast including Rangayana Raghu, Veena Sundar, Raghu Ramanakoppa,



and Vijay Chandoor.

Rao said he considered the chance to act in the movie as a matter of pride. "This movie can become a tribute to the Indian film industry. The script of the movie is unique. I thank the producer and the director for giving me a chance to play the lead in the movie," Rao said.

Misha Narang said she was very happy to get this opportunity. "My character in the movie is very good," she said.

Producer Nanjundaiah said he agreed to bankroll the movie because of its script. "I will never forget Ajay Rao's cooperation," he said.

Song released

The much-awaited bilingual movie Junior is set to arrive in theaters in July. The movie is made in Kannada and Telugu. Former minister G Janardhan Reddy's son Kireeti Reddy plays the lead while Mayabazar fame Radhakrishna Reddy has handled the megaphone and Devi Sri Prasad has scored its music.

Lyrical video – Let's Live This Moment – was unveiled on Monday. Crazy Star Ravichandran, KK Senthil Kumar, who worked as a cinematographer for Telugu movies Bahubali and RRR, music director Devi Sri Prasad, producer Rajani Korapati, and director Radhakrishna Reddy were at the event. Ravichandran said that he likes the director's style of narrating the script. "Audiences will con-



nect with the script. I was happy to dub for this movie. Kireeti wanted to become a hero by selecting a good script," he said. Music director Devi Sri Prasad said Junior has all elements including love. "I began my career as a music director with emotional movies. The Telugu lyric was written by Srimani. The Kannada version of the song was sung by Pavan Bhat. Cinematographer KK Senthil Kumar has done a fantastic job," he said.